



CONTROL OF LATE SEASON COTTON SUCKING PESTS WITH **BIOPEST[®]** PARAFFINIC OIL

Key Points

- Widespread insecticide applications to control early season insect pests has resulted in the flaring of late season pests like whitefly, mirids, mealy bug and mites.
- Use BIOPEST[®] stand alone to minimise oviposition and prevent a population buildup of whitefly, aphids and mirids.
- Use BIOPEST[®] in mixtures with commonly used insecticides like Admiral, Transform, Pegasus & Mainman to improve efficacy and reduce the potential for resistance development
- BIOPEST[®] is safe on beneficials, will not cause flaring of pests and should be used as the basis for an IPM strategy

Whitefly, mealy bug and mirids

Like aphids, whitefly produce honeydew which is difficult to remove during ginning. Mirids cause early season damage to terminals and buds and mid to late season damage to squares and small bolls (see Figure 1).

Repeated applications of certain insecticides, such as fipronil & pyriproxyfen standalone without BIOPEST[®] – can exacerbate the development of resistance (Chart 1), as there is greater impact on beneficials and selection pressure on the active.

According to St George consultant John Barber “there has been limited whitefly flaring in crops where in-season sprays have included BIOPEST[®] at 2.0L in mixes with softer insecticide such as Transform”



Figure 1: Mirid damage on bolls
Source: Cotton CRC

BIOPEST[®] is registered for control of sucking pests like whitefly, mealy bugs, aphids and mirids in a range of crops, including cotton. BIOPEST reduces immature life stages of a number of sucking pests once the life stages come into contact with the BIOPEST[®] sprayed on the leaf surface. Targeting infested leaf surfaces will reduce the number of immature pests reaching adult stage.

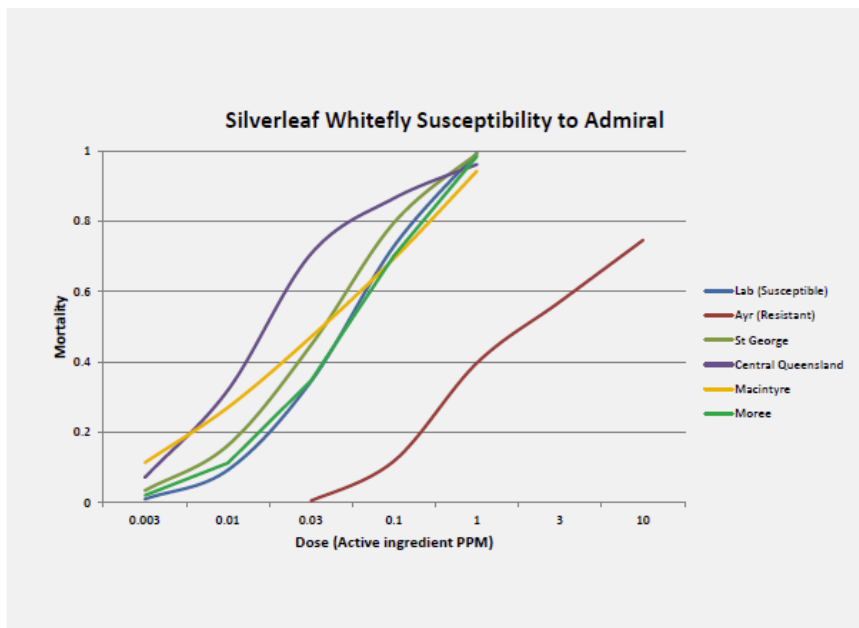


Chart 1: Summary of results from Admiral[®] dose response bioassays 2013-14
Source: Hopkinson et al. 17th Australian Cotton Conference Publication



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BIOPEST for Whitefly Control

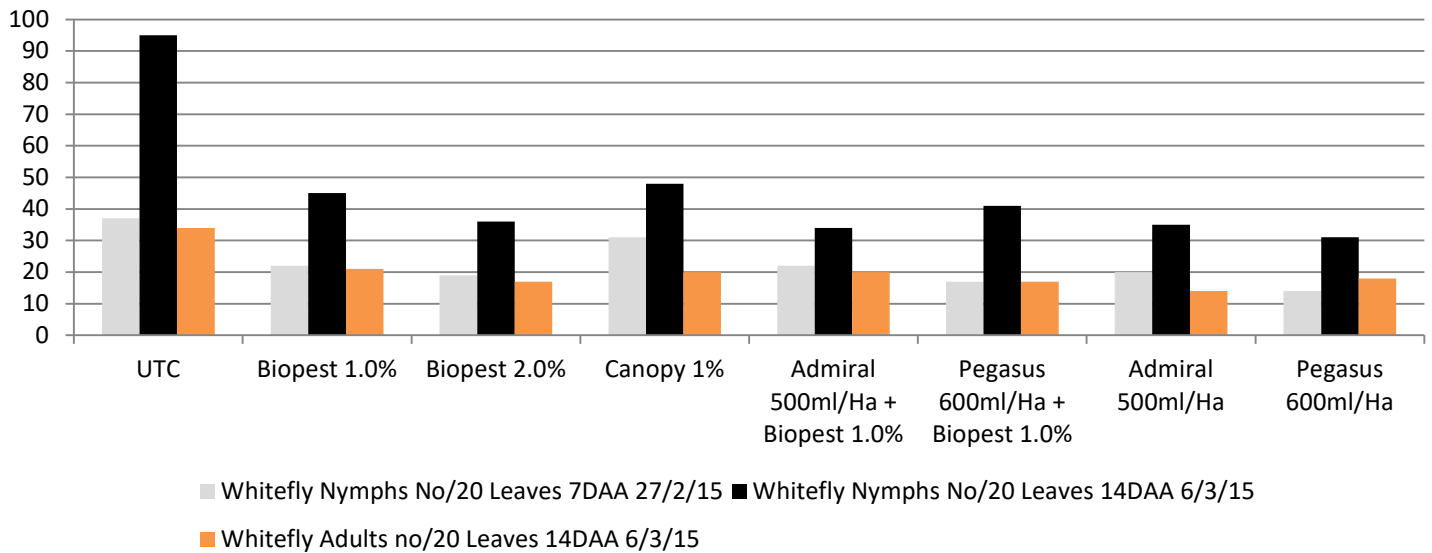


Chart 2: BIOPEST® performed well both standalone and in insecticide mixtures in cotton.

Source: KA14-1127 BIOPEST® RR mixtures for whitefly suppression in cotton

NOTE: Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different.

Compatible with insecticides

BIOPEST® has been proven in field trial work in the 2014 and 2015 seasons to provide effective control of a range of sucking pests including mirids and whitefly, both alone and in mixtures with insecticides (see Charts 2 and 3). In our February 2015 whitefly work, BIOPEST® alone was found to be as effective in controlling of whitefly as commonly used insecticides.

Safe on beneficials

Late season pests, such as mirids and whitefly, are generally not an issue in conventional cotton due to the use of a broader range of larvicides. There are a number of predators that prey on sucking pests – ideally a sustainable whitefly management strategy should aim to preserve these. BIOPEST® has been proven to be extremely soft on beneficials.

BIOPEST® control of mirids

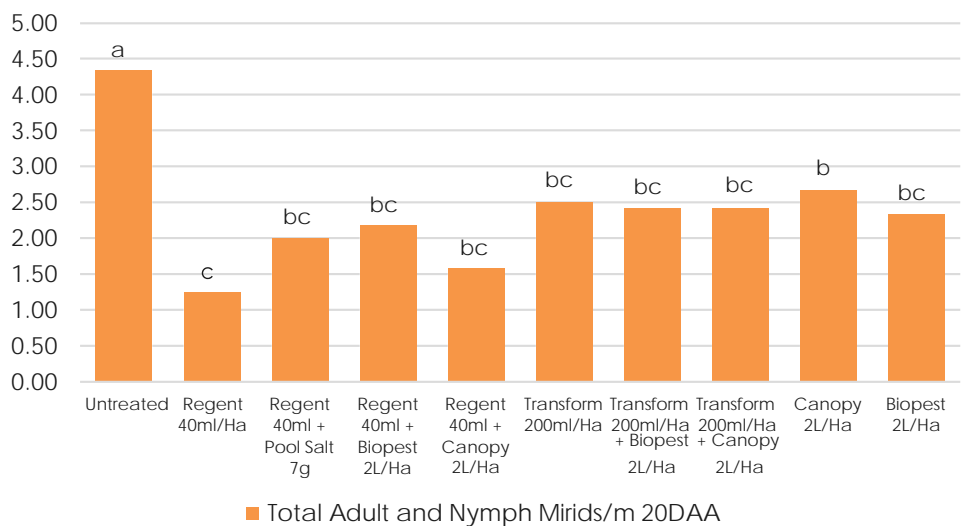


Chart 3: BIOPEST® provides effective control of adult and nymph mirids in cotton.

Source: February 2014 – Kalyx Narrabri KA13-827

NOTE: Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different.



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References

COTTON CRC

www.cottoncrc.org.au/industry/Publications/Pests_and_Beneficials/Cotton_Insect_Pest_and_Beneficial_Guide/Pests_by_common_name/Whitefly

Kalyx Report – KA14-1127: Biopest RR mixtures for whitefly suppression in cotton

Kalyx Report – W12-474: Use of Biopest in Glyphosate mixtures. March 2013

Kalyx Report – KA13-827: Biopest for green mirids in cotton. May 2014

Find Out More

Further information is available at SACOA.com.au, on (08) 9386 7666 or by contacting your local SACOA representative;

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- Matt Sherriff
National Technical & Marketing
Manager
0434 595 520
- Jamie Cox
North Eastern Regional Manager
0427 100 065



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